

DRINKING WATER QUALITY AND ACCESS

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BOARD ADOPTED PROCEDURE

Federal and state standards for drinking water quality cover only lead. They do not require testing or remediation for other characteristics such as cadmium, copper, coliform bacteria or iron.

This Procedure is based on and meets or exceeds the best advice of EPA, and state and county departments of health. The School Board believes that the Seattle School District should go farther, to assure not only compliance with minimum standards, but to give parents, students and staff confidence that they will have access to water which is safe and aesthetically appealing.

Water quality and access:

- A. The following action levels are set for drinking water: lead (not to exceed 10 ppb), copper (not to exceed 1.3 ppm), cadmium (not to exceed 5 ppb) and iron (0.3 ppm). Each building shall also meet Washington State standards for total coliform.
- B. Testing Requirements:
 - 1. All cold water fountains, elementary classroom sinks, nursing office sinks and kitchen sources shall be tested for lead and cadmium. All non-compliant sources shall be fixed or taken out of service.
 - 2. Testing for copper, coliform and iron shall be taken at representative locations. Followup testing will be performed at the original sources and adjacent sources. Confirmed positives shall be fixed or removed from service.
 - 3. Other sources may be sampled and other characteristics sampled, but remediation shall not be required unless it is determined that student, parent or staff safety is jeopardized.
- C. Drinking water shall be easily accessible to all students and staff throughout the school day. In elementary schools this means



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drinking water shall be accessible in each classroom, gym, auditorium and library. In middle and high schools, this means it shall be available in a number of locations dispersed throughout the school. Staff lounge fountains which do not meet standards will be disabled instead of fixed; lounge sinks which do not meet standards will be posted with signs.

- D. Where a building or portion thereof does not meet the requirements of paragraph A. through C. above, sufficient bottled water shall be provided free of charge to bring the building into compliance with the middle school/high school standards until permanent remediation measures are implemented and tested.
- E. "Do not Drink the Water" signs will be posted in restrooms and other untested locations.
- F. Drinking fountains shall be kept clean, well maintained, and free of debris.
- G. Students shall be allowed to bring water bottles from home and carry them throughout the day.

Remediation:

The Superintendent shall develop protocols for remediation where test results indicate it is necessary. The protocols shall include a list of acceptable remediation steps, which may include a full range of options, such as complete replacement of systems or lines, replacement of individual fixtures, filters and removal or disabling of selected noncompliant sources with signage indicating where drinking water may be found. The precise method chosen will depend on the particular circumstances involved. Upon completion of remediation activities, the affected water sources shall be tested, the results posted on the District website and letters describing the results delivered to affected students and parents.



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Long Term Testing

The Superintendent shall develop and implement a program of long term periodic testing of each school to assure compliance with the above quality and access requirements, taking into account factors such as the age and composition of the drinking water piping system in each school and prior test results. The testing program shall identify the types of sources to be tested, the level of sampling (all or selected locations), frequency of testing and followup protocols. The costs of this program shall be included in annual budget planning.

Report of Results

Test results shall be available on the District website and letters describing the results delivered to affected students and parents.